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## OFFICIAL

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Group Art Unit 2624, Expedited Procedure

03500.013834.

PATENT APPLICATION

| IN THE UNITED STATES | PATENT | AND | TRADEN | MAKK | OFFICE |
|----------------------|--------|-----|--------|------|--------|
|                      |        |     |        |      |        |

| In re Application of:            | ) |                        |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
|                                  | : | Examiner: S.M. Brinich |
| HIROYUKI SHINBATA ET AL.         | ) |                        |
|                                  | : | Group Art Unit: 2624   |
| Application No.: 09/396,740      | ) |                        |
|                                  | : |                        |
| Filed: September 15, 1999        | ) |                        |
| •                                | : | •                      |
| For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, | ) |                        |
| IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD,         | : |                        |
| AND RECORDING MEDIUM             |   | January 20, 2004       |

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2003, please amend the above-referenced application as follows. The claims changes are reflected in the listing beginning at page 2, and the Remarks begin at page 6.

| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile |
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| to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306, on               |
| January 20, 2004,   |
| (Date of Transmission)  |
| Leonard P. Diann (Reg. No. 29,296)  |
| (Name of Antorney for Applicant)  |
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